

store to multimillionaires." House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (Md.) said Bush's comments on fiscal rectitude "read like a passage from 'Alice in Wonderland.'"

This kind of rhetoric bodes ill for future cooperation on tax and spending questions, Penner said. "Unless there is some reduction in the vicious partisanship that has come to dominate our politics, it's very hard to imagine people coming together on anything," he said.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5385, MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

Mr. GINGREY, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-472) on the resolution (H. Res. 821) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5385) making appropriations for the military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF SPECIALIST DAVID N. TIMMONS, JR.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentlewoman from Texas (Mr. POE).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to express the heartfelt condolences of a grateful Nation and to honor the life of Army Specialist David N. Timmons, Jr. of Lewisville, North Carolina. Specialist Timmons passed away on May 5, 2006, while serving in Afghanistan.

Specialist Timmons served our country as a calvary scout assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York. His strong patriotism and desire to make a difference led him to join the army after attending Forsythe Technical Community College.

Specialist Timmons was a loving son and brother. He leaves behind his father, David Timmons, Sr.; his stepmother, Cynthia Timmons; and his sister, Shalante Timmons. May God bless them and comfort them during this very difficult time.

We owe this brave soldier and his family a tremendous debt of gratitude for his selfless service and sacrifice. Our country could not maintain its

freedom and security without heroes like Specialist Timmons who make the ultimate sacrifice. Americans, as well as Afghans, owe their liberty to Specialist Timmons and his fallen comrades who came before him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Army Specialist David N. Timmons, Jr.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN SONNY MONTGOMERY

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a former Member of this body, Congressman Sonny G.V. Montgomery of Meridian, Mississippi. Our Nation laid him to rest this week in his home State.

As a Congresswoman who arrived here in the early 1980s, it was my great privilege to serve on the committee which he chaired, the Veterans' Committee, which was his life here in the Congress of the United States. I can recall so many times, as a Member of that committee, what a gracious, gracious Chair he was. Even to the new young members who had much to learn. I remember so much of what he did and the camaraderie that he established as a very precious gift not just to the committee or to the Congress but to the Nation. And we could use more of that spirit here today.

I remember in 1984 when the Montgomery G.I. Bill passed in a Democratic Congress with his leadership, how generation after generation a young veteran would come to be able to afford an education and to obtain decent health care and what he did to strengthen our Armed Forces, including our Guard and Reserve, and given us the best Armed Forces that the world has ever known. He hardly ever claimed credit for that publicly, and yet he worked on it for years.

I can remember many State of the Union addresses where in what I called the Montgomery chair back there in the back row he would sit and he would welcome the Presidents from each party as they would come into this Chamber, and I cannot ever remember Sonny Montgomery losing his temper. If he did, I certainly never saw it.

I watched him when we struggled with the issue of Agent Orange. When some of the scientists who testified before the committee said, We really can-

not show causality, we cannot show that, in fact, this veteran has cancer because he was mixing Agent Orange in big vats with paddles in Vietnam back in the 1960s and early 1970s. And there came a point in the committee when Sonny said, You know, there is a time when you have to do what is morally right even though it may not be scientifically provable. And for the first time in the Nation's history since Vietnam we were able to treat veterans who contracted serious illnesses as a result of their service. Special centers were set up, such as in New York, in order that we could assess and learn about these terrible, terrible illnesses that resulted from exposure to Agent Orange.

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Sonny Montgomery traveled to the districts of the Members of his committee. I was so impressed, because many times we would get a veteran who, unfortunately, because of illness would be out of control in the audience, and Sonny had a way of moving his hand and talking to the veteran, kind of calming him down. He was an amazing, amazing man to watch.

He loved veterans. He loved Americans, but he had a special gift to be able to reach those who sometimes were distant. Half of the homeless in America are veterans. The work that he did as Chair of that committee helped us to recognize for the first time the problem of homeless veterans.

He got great assistance from a young Congressman then who had joined the committee, LANE EVANS of Illinois, who currently due to Parkinson's illness is in Illinois right now trying to heal himself. These men did so much for our Nation and for the improvement of the conditions under which our veterans serve.

I can remember when Sonny came to my district in Ohio. It didn't matter where you took him, to a Veterans Post, a Legion Post, a public meeting, people would stand and cheer. He was "Mr. Veteran" from coast to coast. And he left a legacy of improved education, of improved health care, of a veterans system that increased the number of health care clinics, both in urban and rural areas, to care for our veterans, and he took very seriously the slogan from Lincoln that is on the front of the Department of Veterans Affairs, "To care for them who shall have borne the battle, his widow or widower, and his or her orphan." He lived it.

He traveled the world. We improved cemeteries around the world for our veterans. We worked on housing programs to go beyond the GI single-family home mortgage to multiple family home construction.

He did so much so quietly and so effectively. Personally, he worked with me many, many years as we were trying to build the World War II memorial here in Washington in three different committees of jurisdiction, and yet was